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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Food Distribution Programs Branch
Washington 25, D. C.

MONTHLY FOOD SUPPLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1946

The September survey of the adequacy of food supplies reflects significant changes in the availability of foods as compared with the previous month. Declines in the availability of fresh and cured meats were observed while increases in the general availability of many canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were apparent. For the country as a whole supplies of canned fruits, pineapple juice, canned corn, canned tomatoes and tomato juice, frozen fruits, raisins, dry beans, veal and lamb, canned meats and fish, margarine, lard, shortening, salad oils, soaps and washing powders, rice, and corn meal were not sufficient to meet general demands. The supply of sugar was not meeting ration demand. Other items were adequate or surplus. Irish potatoes were surplus in 29 percent of the reporting areas and cabbage was surplus in 12 percent.

The 203 reports summarized in this analysis are based on information gathered by field representatives of the Production and Marketing Administration during the first week of May at meetings of food advisory committees and by direct communication with the food trades. The number of area reports received from each of the five regions is as follows: northeast 29, midwest 61, south 42, southwest 38, and west 33.

The analysis, as in the past, is divided into three parts. Part I is a narrative summary of the month's developments. Part II sets forth percentage figures for each region, dividing commodities into three groups: generally scarce, generally adequate, and unbalanced. It must be remembered that these percentages are based on the number of areas reporting the situation, rather than on quantitative measures. Furthermore, each area report is given equal weight in computing regional and U. S. totals. Thus, shortage situations or differences among regions may be exaggerated. Part III shows the food availability situation in 28 selected localities.

The three categories of adequacy of supplies used in this survey are defined as follows:

- Scarce: Supply is less than three-quarters of current demand.
- Adequate: Supply is more than three-quarters of current demand but not sufficiently in excess of demand to cause excessive inventories.
- Surplus: Supplies available in quantities greater than demand. Inventories heavy and rapidly becoming excessive in view of current level of demand.

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PART I - ADEQUACY OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Fruits and Vegetables

Canned Fruits: Canned fruits remained scarce in almost all areas during early September. Fruit cocktail, pears and pineapple were scarce in 99 percent of the reporting areas and peaches were scarce in 93 percent. Some improvement was observed in the availability of canned peaches in the south.

Canned Juice: Supplies of grapefruit juice, orange juice, and orange-grapefruit blended juice continued to be sufficient to meet the demand in practically all areas. Pineapple juice was scarce in 98 percent of the reporting areas showing little change from a month earlier. Tomato juice was scarce in about one-half of the areas throughout the country.

Canned Vegetables: Canned green and wax beans and canned peas were generally adequate throughout the country showing an increase in availability compared with the previous month. Canned corn was scarce in 66 percent of the reporting areas and canned tomatoes were scarce in 88 percent.

Frozen Foods: Although supplies of frozen fruits were generally scarce for the country as a whole some increase in the availability was observed. Frozen apricots were scarce in 36 percent of the reporting areas; frozen peaches in 46 percent; and frozen strawberries in 65 percent. These compare with 50, 49 and 74 percent reporting scarce last month. Frozen lima beans were reported scarce in 60 percent of the reporting areas during early September as compared to 72 percent the previous month. Frozen snap beans, frozen corn, frozen peas, and frozen spinach were adequate or surplus in 85, 72, 82 and 89 percent of the reporting areas respectively.

Dried Foods: The supply of dried prunes was adequate in 72 percent of the reporting areas throughout the country --about the same as during early August. Raisins were scarce in 61 percent of the areas compared to 57 percent during the previous month. Dry beans were scarce in 91 percent of the areas reflecting a decline in availability as compared with a month ago.

Fresh Foods: Irish potatoes and cabbage were adequate or surplus in all reporting areas during early September. Irish potatoes were reported surplus in 29 percent and cabbage in 12 percent of the reporting areas for the country as a whole. Significant surpluses of potatoes were observed in each of the five regions reporting. Fresh oranges were adequate or surplus in 93 percent of the areas.

Meats: Significant declines in the availability of meats were reported during the first week of September compared with the previous month. Beef steaks, roasts and hamburger were scarce in about 30 percent of the reporting areas as compared with about 5 percent in August. Veal and lamb steaks, roasts, and chops were scarce in 39 percent of the reporting areas. Pork loin, chops and roasts were scarce in 61 percent of the areas as compared to 29 percent in August. The proportion of areas reporting a scarcity of fresh ham and shoulder

increased from 37 percent in August to 63 percent in early September.

Cured ham and shoulder, salted fatcuts, and bacon were scarce in 77, 65 and 88 percent of the areas, respectively, in early September. Cold cuts of meats were meeting the demand generally throughout the country while canned meats were scarce in 39 percent of the reporting areas.

Fish: Fresh and frozen fish were generally meeting the demands in only three of the five regions as the southwest and west reported scarce in 34 and 36 percent of the areas, respectively. Canned salmon, tuna, and sardines remained scarce in practically all areas.

Dairy Products: Supplies of butter continued adequate or surplus in 94 percent of the reporting areas during early September and cheeses of all types were adequate in 85 percent of the areas. The supply of evaporated milk improved generally as 81 percent of the areas reported adequate.

Fats and Oils: Margarine supplies continued to be insufficient to meet demand in about 95 percent of the reporting areas. Lard and shortening were scarce in 83 and 91 percent of the areas, respectively, while salad oils were scarce in 99 percent of the areas.

Soaps: Soaps and washing powders were generally scarce throughout the country. No significant changes were observed during the period.

Sugar: Sugar supplies were not meeting the ration demand for the country as a whole during early September and general scarcities were reported in the northeast, south, and southwest.

Other Items: Shell eggs were reported adequate or surplus in 87 percent of the areas in September as compared to 92 in August. Chicken was adequate or surplus in 93 percent of the areas showing little change from a month earlier. Rice continued scarce in practically all reporting areas. Corn meal supplies were insufficient to meet demand in 71 percent of the areas while wheat flour and bread were adequate in 92 and 98 percent of the reporting areas, respectively.

FOODS THAT ARE GENERALLY SCARCE (A) -- reported scarce by at least one-third of the areas in all five regions. National figures are based on the actual number of areas reporting, and are not averages of the regional percentages.

Percent Reporting Scarce Supplies

<u>Fruits & Vegetables</u>	<u>U. S.</u>	<u>N. E.</u>	<u>M. W.</u>	<u>S.</u>	<u>S. W.</u>	<u>W.</u>
Canned Fruit Cocktail	99	100	98	100	97	100
Canned Peaches	93	100	98	76	97	91
Canned Pears	99	100	98	100	100	100
Canned Pineapple	99	97	100	100	97	100
Canned Pineapple Juice	98	97	98	100	97	97
Canned Corn	66	79	53	67	79	64
Canned Tomatoes	88	100	90	79	79	97
Frozen Strawberries	65	76	66	72	51	60
Frozen Lima Beans	60	38	68	68	61	57
Dried Raisins	61	55	54	52	74	73
Dried Beans	91	100	87	93	95	82
<u>Meats, Fish, Dairy Products</u>						
<u>Fats & Oils</u>						
Pork: Loin, Chops, & Roasts	61	79	37	71	63	69
Ham & Shoulder, Fresh	63	76	42	67	71	75
Ham & Shoulder, Cured	77	97	56	79	82	91
Salted Fat Cuts	65	79	49	62	71	81
Bacon	89	93	75	90	90	100
Canned Salmon	98	100	100	100	95	94
Canned Tuna	96	100	98	95	95	88
Canned Sardines	96	93	98	95	95	97
Margarine	95	93	98	95	97	91
Lard	83	93	72	69	95	100
Shortening	91	100	100	98	100	100
Salad Oils	99	96	98	100	100	100
<u>Miscellaneous</u>						
Soap: Bar Laundry	99	100	98	98	97	100
Flakes & Granules	99	100	98	100	97	100
Washing Powders	98	100	98	100	95	97
Rice	97	100	100	93	100	88
Corn Meal	71	96	80	35	68	76

FOODS THAT ARE GENERALLY ADEQUATE (B) -- reported in adequate or surplus supply by more than two-thirds of the areas in all five regions. Percentages starred include 10 percent or more "surplus" reports; those double-starred include 25 percent or more. National figures are based on the actual number of areas reporting and are not averages of the regional percentages.

Percent Reporting Adequate or Surplus Supplies

<u>Fruits and Vegetables</u>	<u>U. S.</u>	<u>N. E.</u>	<u>M. W.</u>	<u>S.</u>	<u>S. W.</u>	<u>W.</u>
Canned Grapefruit Juice	99	100	100	100	95	100
Canned Orange Juice	99	100	100	100	97	94
Canned Orange-Grapefruit Juice	98	100	100	100	95	94
Canned Beans, Green & Wax	88	100	82	95	90	76
Canned Peas	91	86	100	90	82	88
Frozen Snap Beans	85	97	91	76	88	70
Frozen Peas	82	69	89	82	88	77
Frozen Spinach	89	100	93	84	91	77
Fresh Oranges	93	90	97	86	92*	100
Irish Potatoes	100**	100*	100*	100**	100**	100*
Fresh Cabbage	100*	100*	100*	100	100*	100*

Meats, Dairy Products, Poultry

<u>Products</u>						
Cold Cuts; Bologna, Salami, etc.	93	96	95*	90	89	91
Butter	94	97	100	93	79	100
Cheese (All Types)	85	76	92	93	95	69
Shell Eggs	87	90	95	74	87	90
Chicken	93	97	100	86	84	97

Miscellaneous

Wheat Flour	92	82	95	100	100	78
Bread	98	96	100	100	100	94

FOODS THAT ARE UNBALANCED (U) -- reported adequate or surplus in more than two-thirds of the areas in one to four regions, scarce in other regions. National figures are based on the actual number of areas reporting, and are not averages of the regional percentages.

Percent Reporting Adequate or Surplus Supplies

<u>Fruits and Vegetables</u>	<u>U. S.</u>	<u>N. E.</u>	<u>M. W.</u>	<u>S.</u>	<u>S. W.</u>	<u>W.</u>
Canned Tomato Juice	48	41	31	67	66	36
Frozen Apricots	64	38	70	54	77	73
Frozen Peaches	54	31	68	46	51	60
Frozen Cut Corn	72	90	86	53	58	67
Dried Prunes	72	69	85	62	73	64

Meats, Fish, Dairy Products

Beef Steak	70	66	92	40	60	81
Beef Roasts	69	62	92	43	60	81
Hamburger	71	62	93	43	66	81
Veal: Steaks, Chops, & Roasts	61	45	85	36	68	59
Lamb: Steaks, Chops, & Roasts	61	48	91	36	49	62
Canned Meats	61	79	73	48	51	53
Fish, Fresh & Frozen	84	93	95	90	66	64
Evaporated Milk	81	86	93	69	63	88
<u>Miscellaneous</u>						
Sugar	61	34	90	19	57	100

PART III - LOCAL SITUATIONS

Supplies are indicated as follows: A - Scarce; B - Surplus; N - No Answer. Letters in parenthesis after commodities refer to groups shown in Part II: - Generally Scarce; (B) - Generally Adequate; (U) - Unbalanced.

[illegible]

Beef: Steak (U)

Roasts (U)

Lamburger (J)

Veal: Steaks, Crops, & Roasts (U)

Lamb: Steaks, Chops, & Roasts (11)

Pork: Chops, Loin, & Roasts (A)

Ham & Shoulder. Fresh (A)

Ham & Shoulder, Cured (A)

Healed Cuts, Cured (A)
Salted Fat Cuts (A)

Each (A) Each (A)

Racon (A)
Cold cuts, Bologna, etc. (B)

Canned · eats (ü)

Fish, Fresh and Frozen (U)

Canned: Salmon (A)

Tura (.)

Sardines (A)

Butter (B)

Process (D)
Cheese (all Types) (B)

Travertine (U)

(v) 0.5 : 0.5 : 0.5 : 0.5 : 0.5

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Shortening (A)

Sold Gills (A)

3er Laundry Soap (A.)

Flakes & Granules (A)

Washing Powder (A)

Sugar (ii)

Mass. (U)
Mass. Shell (B)

Chicken (2)

Price (1)

(1) ATTICE (1)

(2) LEROY WOOD

(V) Testimony

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Product	Jack- son- ville, Fla.	Ky.	Louis- ville, Tenn.	Mem- phis, Ala.	Mo- bile, Va.	Nor- folk, Texas	Aus- tin, Colo.	Den- ver, Texas	Hous- ton, Texas	New Or- leans, La.	Los Ange- les, Calif.	Phoe- nix, Ariz.	Port- land, Ore.	Salt Lake City, Utah	San Fran- cisco, Calif.	Seat- tle, Wash.
Fruit Cocktail (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Peaches (A)	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Pears (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Pineapple (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Grapefruit Juice (B)	B	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Orange Juice (B)	B	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Orange-Grapefruit Juice (B)	B	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Pineapple Juice (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Beans, Green and Wax (B)	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Corn (A)	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	B
Peas (E)	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Tomatoes (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	B
Tomato Juice (U)	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Frozen Apricots (U)	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Peaches (U)	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	B
Strawberries (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	B
Beans, Lima (A)	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	B
Beans, Snap (B)	B	B	C	C	C	C	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Corn, Cut (U)	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Peas, (B)	B	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Spinach (B)	B	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Dried Prunes (U)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Raisins (A)	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Dry Beans (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Oranges (B)	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Potatoes, Irish (B)	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Cabbage (B)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B

Product	Jack- son- ville, Fla.	Louis- ville, Ky.	Mem- phis, Tenn.	Mo- bile, Ala.	Nor- folk, Va.	Tex. Tex.	Den- ver, Colo.	Lous- ton, Texas	New Or- leans, La.	Los Ange- les, Calif.	Phoe- nix, Aris.	Port- land, Ore.	Salt Lake City, Utah	San Fran- cisco, Calif.	Seat- tle, Wash.
Beef: Steak (U)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Roasts (U)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Hamburger (U)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Veal: Steaks, Cnops, & Roasts (U)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Lamb: Steaks, Chops, & Roasts (U)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Pork: Chops, Loins, & Roasts (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Ham & Shoulder, Fresh (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Ham & Shoulder, Cured (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Salted Fat Cuts (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Pacon (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Cold Cuts, bologna, etc. (B)	R	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Canned Meats (U)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Fish, Fresh and Frozen (U)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Canned: Salmon (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Tuna ()	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Sardines (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Butter (B)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Cheese (All Types) (B)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Evaporated Milk (U)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Margarine (A)	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Lard (A)	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Shortening (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Salad Oils (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Bar Laundry Soap (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Flakes and Granules (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Washing Powder (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Sugar (U)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Eggs Shell (b)	E	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Chicken (B)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Rice (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Corn Meal (A)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A
Wheat Flour (B)	C	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Bread (B)	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B

